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1800. Jan. 3. Between 2-5 P. M. *Annual Election*. (Patterson, Vaughan, Seybert, Peale, Collin, Clay, Du Ponceau, T. P. Smith. Vaughan, Collin, Smith, Judges; Seybert, Peale, Secretaries.)

*President*—Thomas Jefferson.

*Vice-Presidents*—Wistar, Patterson, Rush.

*Secretaries*—Seybert, Clay, S. H. Smith, T. P. Smith.

*Councillors*—Williams, Ellicott, Coxe, Magaw (3 years).

*Councillors*—Latrobe (2 years) “in the absence of Thos. McKean, become the patron of the Society.”\*

*Treasurer*—Vaughan.

*Curators*—Peale, B. S. Barton, Turner.

1800. Jan. 7. (Jefferson; Wistar, Patterson, Barton, Magaw, Seybert, Clay, Latrobe, Vaughan, Duponceau, J. B. Smith, Peale, Caldwell, S. H. Smith, T. P. Smith.)

The Committee Connecticut Academy Arts and Science desiring the coöperation of the American Philosophical Society in prevailing on Congress to direct the Census to be taken in a more detailed manner, enclosed in their letter a Memorial to Congress, with the Act of incorporation and list of Officers of the Academy. The President and Vice-Presidents were appointed a Committee to frame a Memorial to Congress and present the same in the name of the Society. The Secretaries to assure the Conn. Academy of immediate and cordial coöperation.

1800. Jan. 17. (Patterson; Vaughan, La Trobe [*sic*], Wheeler, J. B. Smith, Turner, S. H. Smith, Bleakley, T. P. Smith, Abercrombie, Peale, Rush, Coxe, Park, Blackwell, Magaw, Duffield, White, Sybert [*sic*], Collin, Caldwell, Andrews.)

“On the essential Oil of certain plants” in a letter from B. Shultz, was read and referred to Coxe, Seybert and Barton.

The Memorial to the Legislature of Pennsylvania was then read and adopted.

\* *I. e.*, Governor of Pennsylvania.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

The Memorial of the American Philosophical Society respectfully represents,

That, in the year 1769 a number of citizens of Pennsylvania, desirous of combining the talents of men of philosophical pursuits in the promotion and diffusion of useful knowledge, associated themselves into a society.

Meetings of the members were statedly held, at which numerous communications were made on subjects of science and of general utility. Under the auspices of an individual, whose memory is consecrated to science, the labours of a small body of men deservedly attracted the attention and received the patronage of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and who incorporated them in the year 1780 into a society denominated "The American Philosophical Society for Promoting Useful Knowledge."

From this period the industry of the members of the Society appears to have been excited to new and persevering effort. Besides many fugitive productions, published in periodical and distinct works, they have published four large Quarto volumes of transactions. The first volume had previously appeared in 1771; the second appeared in 1786; the third in       ; and the fourth in 1799; and as an honourable attestation of the esteem in which their Transactions have been held, it may not be amiss to state that in obedience to the public voice a second edition of the first volume was printed in the year 1789 and that some of the volumes have been reprinted in Europe. It becomes not the Society to express any opinion on the merit of the various productions contained in their volumes; a recurrence to which will demonstrate that the most eminent talents in the Union have been, thro' their means, drawn forth and usefully engaged in the discussion of subjects which embrace improvements and discoveries in agriculture, in mechanics, and in the various arts, the advancement of which is so generally connected with national prosperity.

In the year 1785, the Society, impressed with the importance of possessing, and sensible of the injuries sustained from the want of, a building which would afford convenient apartments for holding their meetings in, and be a safe depository for a philosophical apparatus, and for a library, then respectable, and ever since increasing, erected *at their own expense*, assisted by the liberal donations of *private* individuals, a hall 70 feet in front and 50 feet in depth, on a lot appropriated for that purpose by the Legislature. The expense attending the erecting of this building amounted to upwards of 8,000 dollars. As the Society had not immediate use for all the apartments in their hall, they let those that were unoccupied by themselves to Charles Wilson Peale, for the exclusive object of arranging and displaying the objects of his museum; and as an encouragement to an object of such national importance, they entered into a contract with him on terms of studied moderation. They are happy in being able to inform

the Legislature that since the removal of the museum to this Hall its extension has been so rapid as to excite and amply to repay the curiosity of men of science.

Under the superintendence of the Society Premiums for valuable improvements in agriculture and the several arts to the amount of Dollars have been proposed ; whereby new ideas have been excited and many interesting discoveries been made.

Animated by a love of science, ambitious of attracting to America the esteem of the enlightened, and above all other motives, anxiously solicitous to develop, to improve, and to extend the yet dormant tho' boundless resources of our Country, the A. P. Society has unceasingly pursued the objects of its institution, amidst the desolations of war and the violence of political feuds ; and while others have been exclusively engaged in personal pursuits, the time and property of its members have been cheerfully devoted to the advancement of science. Hitherto the funds of the Society, if the lot on which their hall is erected be excepted, have been derived from individual contributions. Limited [*sic*] as these, from their nature, must be, the expenditures of the Society appear, on review, to have been large and burthensome. In estimating the further necessary expenditures, it is not expected that a smaller annual sum will be, than heretofore has been, required. The field of science and research, every day enlarging, continues with each preceeding [*sic*] year to present new objects of attention, and to demand in their investigation additional resources.

Under these circumstances the A. P. Society addresses itself to the Legislature of Pennsylvania as the constitutional patron of useful knowledge. The liberal assistance bestowed on other institutions is an honourable pledge of the sincere and solicitous regard for science entertained by the Legislature and furnishes a well founded hope that a body, instituted for the advancement of science on the largest scale, and which in its character stands almost alone in the United States will be deemed worthy of national encouragement.

This encouragement is not desired for purposes of temporary moment. The Society will cheerfully discharge all ordinary and incidental expenses. But in their researches they labour under two serious and to them insurmountable obstacles, the want of scientific works, and of an extensive philosophical apparatus, commensurate to the objects of their attention. It is to be regretted, that while large collections of esteemed works in miscellaneous literature exist in various parts of the United States, no comprehensive collection of works on natural science have been made. This circumstance is the more to be lamented, as works of science are so numerous, and a complete philosophical apparatus is so expensive, as to be beyond the reach of individual purchase. From the want of these aids, talents often are uselessly engaged in making discoveries already made in Europe, which, otherwise directed, might have produced the most important results.

The State of Pennsylvania has long stood unrivaled in the Arts. The

enlightened impulse given to our public institutions, and to the private pursuits of our citizens, by her founder and his immediate successors, has imparted an energy to her literary character, which is felt and acknowledged to this day. At present a lively rivalry is cherished among her Sister States, who, having discerned, are prompt to seize, the benefits that are inseparable from the diffusion of knowledge.

It is our ardent desire, and we are sure that it is yours, that Pennsylvania should preserve unimpaired the pre-eminence she has so honourably acquired.

With confidence, therefore, we rely on receiving such aid as the resources of the State will afford, and you, as the organs of the public shall deem expedient to bestow.

*Resolved*, That this memorial be signed by the officers of the Society and be forwarded to the governor of the State of Pennsylvania.

### The Memorial to Congress was then reported :

*To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.*

The memorial of the American Philosophical Society respectfully sheweth that this Society instituted for the promotion of useful knowledge, understanding that the legislature of the Union have under their consideration a bill for taking a new census of the inhabitants of the U. S. consider it as offering an occasion of great value and not otherwise to be obtained of ascertaining sundry facts highly interesting and important to Society. Under this impression they beg leave respectfully to submit to the wisdom of the legislature the expediency of requiring from their officers, in addition to the table in the former act for the same purpose, others presenting a more detailed view of the inhabitants of the U. S. under several different aspects.

They consider it as important to determine the effect of the soil and climate of the U. S. on the inhabitants thereof ; & for this purpose, dividing life into certain epochs, to ascertain the existing numbers within each epoch from whence may be calculated the ordinary duration of life in these States, the chances of life for each epoch thereof, and the ratio of the increase of their population ; firmly believing that the result will be sensibly different from what is presented by the tables of other countries, by which we are from necessity in the habit of estimating the probabilities of life here. And they humbly suggest as proper for these purposes the intervals between the following epochs, viz. birth, 2, 5, 10, 16, 21 & 25 years of Age & every term of 5 years from thence to 100.

For the purpose also of more exactly distinguishing the increase of population by birth and by immigration they propose that another table shall present in separate columns the respective numbers of native citizens, citizens of foreign birth & of aliens.

In order to ascertain more compleatly [*sic*] the causes which influence

life & health and to furnish a curious and useful document of the distribution of society in these states and of the conditions & vocations of our fellow citizens, they propose that still another table shall be formed specifying in different columns the number of free male inhabitants of all ages engaged in business under the following or such other descriptions as the greater wisdom of the legislature shall approve: viz 1, men of the learned professions, including clergymen, lawyers, physicians, those employed in the fine arts, teachers and scribes in general. 2, merchants and traders including bankers, insurers, brokers and dealers of every kind. 3, mariners. 4, handicraftsmen. 5, labourers in agriculture. 6, labourers of other descriptions. 7, domestic servants. 8, paupers. 9, persons of no particular calling living on their income: care being taken that every person be noted but once in this table and *that* under the description to which he principally belongs.

They flatter themselves that from these data truths will result very satisfactory to our citizens, that under the joint influence of soil, climate & occupation the duration of human life in this portion of the earth will be found at least equal to what it is in any other; and that its population increases with a rapidity unequaled in all others.

What other views may be advantageously taken, they submit with those above suggested to the superior wisdom of Congress in whose decision they will acquiesce with unqualified respect.

*Resolved* That a copy of this memorial be forwarded to the Connecticut Academy and another to the Boston Academy.

*Election of Members*.—Robert Liston, Esquire, H. B. M. Envoy Extr., &c.; John R. Smith, A. M.; Justus Eric Bollmann, M. D. of Philada., and William Dunbar of the Mississippi Territory.

1800. *Feb'y* 7. (Jefferson; Vaughan, J. Smith, Bleakley, Patterson, Smiley [Finley?], Bollmann, S. H. Smith, T. B. Smith, Coxe, Seybert, Peale, Barton, La Trobe [*sic*], T. P. Smith.)

“On a supposed new species of *Oniscus*” in a letter from H. B. Latrobe [*sic*], was referred to Dr. Barton.

“Sketch of a geographical view of the Trees & Shrubs of N. America,” a memoir read by Dr. Barton; referred to Mr. Latrobe [*sic*].

Committee on Shultz’s paper on Essential Oils; report accepted.

Committee on Priestley’s three papers, reported.

Committee on Mrs. Rittenhouse's legacy, reported its receipt and investment in 8 [*sic*] per cent stock of the United States. "The Com. gave 2 p. c. advance, which may be reimbursed from the first receipt of Interest, viz. 4 Dls."

[Six blank pages follow.]

1800. *Feb'y* 21. (Patterson; Barton, Seybert, Vaughan, Dubois, Woodhouse, Currie, S. H. Smith, Wistar.)

Latrobe's paper on Oniscus, "called by the author O. prægustator," reported worthy of publication. Agreed to.

"The Treasurer communicated to the Soc. a certified extract of a letter from Sam. Elam Esq. of Newport, R. I. dated Jan. 21, 1800 to John Brown Esq. Member of H. of Rep. U. S. enclosing a letter to George Turner, covering 500 Dollars for the Society. Also affidavits of Thomas Claxton and Andrew Walker proving the delivery of said money to George Turner." Thanks voted to S. Elam for his "liberal donation," and "assuring him that the Soc. will pursue the most effectual measures required by the unworthy conduct of George Turner. Sam. H. Smith appointed a Com<sup>e</sup>."

"*Resolved* that the Treasurer be authorized to take such measures in relation to the recovery of the money from George Turner, as he shall deem necessary; and that he be authorized to appropriate such sums as shall be required for said purpose. Papers presented by the treasurer lodged with him for the present."

"*Resolved* that Samuel H. Smith be associated with the Treasurer in the performance of the above duties."

"A proposition was made to expel George Turner from this Society, which was committed to Messrs. Patterson and Vaughan, to report at the next meeting."

1800. *March* 7. (Collin; Vaughan, Barton, Currie, Peale, Collin, T. P. Smith, S. H. Smith.)

The Treasurer reported the measures he had taken as to Elam's donation; report agreed to. Vaughan and S. H. Smith to carry it into execution.

Dr. Barton permitted to draw the Mammoth bones, provided it be done in the Society's Hall.

A singular case of Chir. Medical Operation at Upsal, by M. Bergsten, was presented and referred to Seybert and Wistar.

Committee on Turner's expulsion discharged. "The Society will proceed next meeting to the election of a Curator in the place of George Turner, resigned;" notice to be given to members.

"A donation was received from Samuel Elam, of Newport, R. I. of Five hundred Dollars, to be disposed of in such manner as shall best promote the objects of the Society." Thanks voted "to Samuel Elam, a member of this Society, for the above donation, as an evidence of their sense of his distinguished liberality & regard to science."

1800. *March* 21. (Jefferson; Patterson, Seybert, Barton, Vaughan; Bleakley, Peale, Wistar, Woodhouse, S. H. Smith.)

"A description of a newly constructed Time Piece" from Burgis Allison of Bristol (Pa.) was read & referred to Patterson and Clay. Secretary to write that "the Soc. will be happy in receiving further communications."

"Description of proposed Substitute of leather saturated with oil, for copper in the Sheathing of vessels," from H. Guest, New Brunswick, read and referred to Patterson and Barton.

"Nouvelle voilure proposée pour les Vaisseaux de toutes grandeurs," a work by David le Roy, Paris; from the author. Thanks voted. Also Dupont de Nemours' Philosophie de l' univers. Thanks voted and delivered by Jefferson.

"The Com. to whom was intrusted the settlement with George Turner, made report . . . that they have taken the advice of the best council for their guidance. They have taken Major Turner's Bond, with a power to confess judge-



ment thereon for 450 Dollars with interest from 17th March, the bond payable 17th Dec. next; and as security for the same, and for the expenses which may be incurred in examining title &c., they have taken a mortgage with power of sale on 10 days notice on 9,000 acres land in Harrison Co. Virginia, in the name of the Committee in trust for the Society, the bond being to the Society itself. This mode was adopted by the advice of their council. From the enquiries made the Com. are led to believe, the debt may be paid anterior to the term of the bond; and further report that said Turner is willing to authorize the sale of part of the land at a very low price, whenever the Com. can find a purchaser in order to the full discharge of the debt. And your Com. to have the deed recorded and take the necessary steps for ascertaining the value of and title to the property, advancing the necessary expenses therefor, to be reimbursed by Geo. Turner; but propose allowing some little time previously to elapse, to give time for sale." "March 21, 1800 The Patents, Bond and deed of Trust in hands of Treasurer." "The report was agreed to and the Com. who reported it authorized any farther necessary steps."

"The Society proceeded to the election of a Curator in the room of George Turner, when the ballots being taken it appeared that John R. Smith was elected."

A motion for Committees to be in future nominated by the presiding officer, subject to the control of the Society, was ordered to lie on the table.

1800. *April* 4. (Patterson; Collin, Barton, Clay, Seybert, J. R. Smith, Coxe, Duponceau, S. H. Smith, Peale, Wistar.)

"An abridgement of his former Piece on essential oils" from Dr. Shultz, was referred to Barton, Seybert and Coxe.

"A map of the Island of Bartholomy" by S. Fahlberg Phys. to Swe. Gov<sup>t</sup> in said island, from the author.—Also

Chancellor G. Paikull's *Fauna Suecica Insecta*, 2 Vols in one, 8<sup>o</sup> from the author with a promise of more.—Both through Dr. Collin. Thanks voted.

Committee on Allison's Time piece reported. Ordered for publication.

"A letter was received from the Treasurer stating his inability to receive the dividends [*sic*] on the 8 p. ct. stock purchased with the money left by Mrs. Rittenhouse, without a power of attorney under the seal of the Society." Ordered.

Committee of February, 1799, on moneys for Micheau [*sic*] expedition ordered to report at next meeting.

Committee on Peach tree essays: Dr. Coxe added.

"Dr. Collin presented a Statement of sums received by him for the Society, to aid Mr. Micheau's projected expedition some years since; received previously to 25<sup>th</sup> April 1793, viz. Alex. Hamilton \$12.50; Geo. Washington \$25; John Vaughan \$12.50; Walter Stewart, John Ross, J. B. Bordley, each \$5; Wm. White \$2.50; Robert Morris \$20; Ewing, S. Powell, McConnell, Nixon, each \$2.50; S. Coats, \$2.25; B. Bache, Jared Ingersol, M. Clarkson, J. Dorsey, each \$2; R. Blackwell, N. Collin, each \$4; Thos. Jefferson \$12.50.—Total \$128.25.

1800. April 18. (Jefferson; Vaughan, Clay, Barton, J. B. Smith, Peale, Coxe, White, S. H. Smith, Duponceau, Seybert, Patterson, Collin, J. R. Smith.)

"Experiments on the production of air by the freezing of water," by Dr. Priestley, referred to Wistar and Woodhouse.

"On the Analogy between Vegetables, and Polypi and Insects," in French, by Dupont de Nemours, referred to Dr. Barton.

"On the refinement of Camphire [*sic*]," a letter from Dr. Shultz, read by Dr. Seybert.

Donations: A pair of 18-inch globes from Mr. Wm.

Jones, of London; Ebeling's Geography United States, Vols. IV and V; Lettsom's Naturalist and Traveler's Companion, third edition; Lettsom's Natural History of the Tea-tree, &c., 4°; Portraits of Dr. Letsom [*sic*] and Dr. Symmes; W. Jackson's arrangement of Hassenfratz and Adet's Chemical Nomenclature, Acts of Lavoisier, Bertholet and Fourcoy [*sic*]. Thanks voted.

Election of three new members: S. Brown, M.D., of Kentucky; S. Miller, A.M., New York; "Dupont de Nemours, late of France, now residing in the United States."

1800. *May 2.* (Jefferson; Seybert, Vaughan, Barton, Coxe, Jon. B. Smith, Bolman, Maclure, Allison, Peale, S. H. Smith, Wistar.)

"On a new invention for computing the longitude," by Hiram, offered for the Magellanic premium, and referred to Patterson and Clay.

"Description of a new pendent Planetarium," invented by Mr. Burges Allison, referred to Patterson and Clay.

Committee on Dupont's Analogy reported it worthy of publication. Agreed to.

Committee on Burgsten's Surgical Memoir reported that the case "appeared very alarming at first sight, but was in reality not important." Not expedient to publish it. Agreed to.

1800. *May 16.* (Patterson; Williams, Vaughan, Liston, Leslie, Peale, Drs. White, Seybert.)

"Therm. Obs. made [by W. Strickland] at sea," read and referred to Vaughan and Wistar.

Thanks voted to Mr. Sims, owner of Ship *Fame*, for relinquishing £3 · 16 · 6, freight on the globes.

Ordered paid, £6 · 16 · 2 for Encyc., Livraisons 59, 60, 61, "sent over by Dr. Grassy to Mr. Jas. Gibson."

1800. *June 20.* (Wistar; Patterson, Collin, Ellicott, Coxe, Barton, Vaughan, Williams, Peale, Allison, J. B. Smith.)

“Analysis of Black Vomit,” by Dr. Isaac Cathrall, read and referred to Seybert and Woodhouse.

Compasses with points always perpendicular to the paper: a drawing by John J. Hawkins, of Frankfort; referred to Patterson and Clay.

“On the formation of water in plants,” by Dupont de Nemours, read and referred to Jon. Williams for translation. Also a corrected copy of his previous memoir on Polypus, which he wished destroyed.

Iceland crystal, three specimens, found on a sand bar in the Mississippi, from And. Ellicott. (“Described in Eng. Phil. Transactions, 2<sup>d</sup> part 1797.”)

Donations: Barton’s treatise on the Goitre; 50 copies of Jon. Williams’ Thermometrical Navigation; Ellicott and Vaughan, a Committee to distribute them. Thanks voted. Jos. Treat’s Inaugural Essay on the effects of light on Respiration; Rob. Berkley’s Inaugural Essay on Sedatives; Dr. Anderson’s Recreations in Agriculture, Nos. 4 to 12 (ordered bound in 2 Vols.]. Thanks to the above three authors.

Committee on Strickland’s paper, reported [blank space]; report agreed to.

Secretaries and Treasurer to report the materials ready for the next volume, and best mode of publishing the same.

1800. *July 18.* (Patterson; Woodhouse, Cox [*sic*], Andrews, Bleakeley [*sic*], J. B. Smith, S. H. Smith, Duponceau, Ellicott, Peale, Allison, Collin, Wistar.)

Committee on Allison’s Planetarium, “reported that it is not unworthy of publication.” Agreed to.

Committee on Hawkins’s Compasses, reported “that the invention was not of sufficient practical utility to warrant the publication.” Agreed to.

Secretaries reported partially respecting papers for publication.

“On the Constitution of the Water of the Ocean, & on the effects of Soda in rendering it fit for the washing of wearing apparel & other foods at Sea,” by Dr. S. L. Mitchell, of New York, read and referred to Woodhouse and Wistar.

Dupont’s Memoir, translated by Jno. Williams, was referred to Dr. Cox and Mr. Clay.

Committee on Priestley’s paper, reported it worthy of publication; report adopted.

Election of new members postponed, because “the proposal of the candidates” had not been “made a sufficient time before the present meeting.”

1800. Aug. 15. (Drs. Wistar, Cox, Barton, Woodhouse, Ruston; Messrs. Peale, J. B. Smith, Jon. Williams, A. Ellicott, Clay, Vaughan, Revd. B. Allison.)

“Experiments on air exposed to heat in metallic tubes,” by Priestley, read and referred to Wistar and Woodhouse.

“Ast. & Ther. Obs. made\* at the confluence of the Miss. & Ohio rivers, Natchez & N. Orleans,” and “Obs. on the Transit of Mercury made at Miller’s plantation,” by A. Ellicott; read and referred to Mr. Patterson.

Donation: J. B. C. Rousseau’s Inaugural Dissertation on Absorption. Thanks.

“Obs. on the vitiated condition of the Atmosphere arising from combinations of azote and oxygene [*sic*]” by Dr. S. L. Mitchell, New York, referred to Barton and Seybert.

Committee on Cathrall’s paper on black vomit reported it worthy of publication; report adopted.

Committee on Dupont’s paper reported that although ingenious, it was not of sufficient importance to publish.

Jac. Strembeck’s bill for painting and glazing the book-case £3 .. 2 .. 6, and W. Roberts, for making book-case £31 .. 16 .. 3. Treasurer “directed to settle these accounts.”

\* Cairo.

*Houdon's bust of Franklin.* "Mr. Williams presented to the Society a bust of their late president Dr. Franklin (by Houdon) the thanks of the Society were returned to Mr. Williams for his donation."

Treasurer reported partially respecting papers for Transactions. Woodhouse, Wistar, Patterson, and the Secretaries to be a Committee to arrange the papers for Vol. V.

1800. *Sep.* 19. (Patterson; Barton, Wistar, Woodhouse, Bleakley, Peale, Allison, Vaughan, Clay.)

"Proposed plan of a City," with a drawing, by John J. Hawkins, read and referred to Mr. Bleakley.

Wilkinson's Meteorological Journals and Ellicott's Astronomical Observations reported by Mr. Patterson worthy of publication.

List of papers for Transactions Vol. V. reported by Committee.

Priestley's paper on Air, &c., ordered for publication.

Mitchell's paper on Sea Water reported for publication.

Donation: De Jaudenes' Discourse on the Utility of Commerce with the Island of Majorca. Thanks voted to the author.

"A letter from the College of Physicians respecting the rent of the room occupied by the College, was read & referred to Mr. Vaughan, Mr. Bleakley & Mr. Clay."

Committee on papers authorized to agree for the printing of next Vol. Transactions with Mr. Dobson, "or in case of his refusal with any other printer." Committee ordered to prepare the papers, and "that no papers be delivered to the printer until the whole be ready."

"Description of a Stopper for the openings by which the Sewers of cities receive the water of drains," by Mr. John Frazer, read and referred to Peale and Leslie.

1800. *Oct.* 3. (Wistar; Ellicott, Barton, Peale, Dr. Shippen, J. B. Smith, Allison, Vaughan, Dr. Cox, Williams, Clay.)

“Thermometrical Obs. for a series of years, made by John F. Mifflin;”—

“Meteor. Obs. on board the Ship Geo. Barclay from Phila. to Madras & Calcutta, from March 1798 to Nov. following;—”

“Obs. taken at the mouth of Buffaloe creek on Lake Erie in the summer of 1798, Lat.  $42^{\circ} 53'$  N<sup>o</sup>. Long.  $3^{\circ} 44'$  W from Philada;”—communicated by Mr. Williams.

“A *Carton* to contain the Meteor. communications made to the Society,” ordered, through Mr. Vaughan.

Dr. Barton requested to procure Rittenhouse’s Meteoric Observations for twenty-seven years “in continuation.”

“Ast. & Miscell. Obs. made on the boundary between the U. S. and his Cath. Majesty,” from A. Ellicott, read and referred to Patterson and Clay.

Frazer’s Stopper for drains reported worthy of publication.

Committee on Peach Tree Essays reported “that none of those papers which they have examined appear entitled to the premium . . . . because . . . . they do not fully embrace the great object of the Society’s question; because the Experiments do not appear either sufficiently numerous or continued for a sufficient length of time; and because, with the exception of a single paper by John Ellis, the experiments do not appear to be so fully authenticated, as the subject seems to demand.—The Com. deem the two papers signed John Ellis, & X, Y, Z, as deserving the attention of the Society, more especially the last;” signed, Coxe, Barton and Peale.

*Resolved* that the premium be equally divided between these two. The letter X, Y, Z, being opened, the author proved to be Thos. Coulter, Esq. of Cumberland Valley, Bedford Co., Pa.—Ellis’ paper, referred to Wistar; and Coulter’s to Barton, “for revisal.”

Secretary reported Dobson willing to print Vol. V. on the same terms as Vol. IV.

Barton’s Sketch of a geographical view of the trees and

shrubs of North America, reported by Latrobe, "well worthy of publication."

Wilkinson's Meteorological Journals to be deposited in the Carton.

Mr. Vaughan reported partially respecting the room occupied by the College of Physicians.

Secretary ordered to inform Ellis and Coulter of the decision respecting the premium, and "to publish in the different newspapers an abstract of the minutes; & an advertisement to the author of \* X (March 16, 1798) to communicate with the Secretary.

1800. Oct. 17. Dr. Collin; Woodhouse, Barton, J. B. Smith, Ellicott, Allison, Vaughan, Wheeler, Patterson, Dr. Coxe.)

"Mr. Vaughan handed the 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> numbers of the Recreations in Agriculture &c which had lain in the Custom house many months for want of a letter of advice." Secretary to thank Dr. Anderson, of London, and explain delay.

*Observatory*: "Mr. Patterson laid before the Society a draft of a new deed relative to the observatory which Mrs. Waters & Mrs. Searjeant [*sic*] wish to have altered. Referred to Mr. Patterson & Mr. Vaughan to consult counsel & if it can be legally done they are authorized to agree to it."

Committee to fix upon subjects for premiums: Ellicott, Woodhouse, Patterson, Wistar, Dr. Cox [*sic*].

1800. Nov. 7. (Wistar; Allison, J. B. Smith, Patterson, Barton, Williams, Peale, Dr. Coxe [*sic*].

Translation of a "Treatise of Artillery &c.," presented by Mr. Williams.

Postscript to Ellicott's paper referred to same Committee.

"On the figure of the Earth," a paper presented by Mr. Clay, "ordered that it be published."

Ellicott's paper of October 3, reported worthy of publication.



Legeaux's Meteorological Observations mislaid; Secretary to request another copy "& that they [the Society] will always receive with pleasure any further communications he may make on the subject."

Plan for making Meteorological Observations to be reported by J. B. Smith, Patterson and Allison.

Hawkin's Plan of a City: Clay and Williams added to Committee.

1800. *Nov.* 21. (Patterson; Vaughan, Peale, Ellicott, Drs. Boys, Wistar, Woodhouse, Barton, Seybert.)

Agreement reported between the Society and College of Physicians to pay \$40 per annum rent for the room they occupy, from December 10, next; six months notice from either party requisite to cancel the lease; read and approved.

Dobson's receipt for sixteen papers for Vol. V. read.

Donation: Peale's Introductory Discourse on the Science of Nature. Thanks voted. Adams' Lectures on Philosophy, five Vols. 8°, from Wm. Jones, London. Thanks voted.

Translation of Baudry de Lozière's paper on Animal Cotton, read, and ordered for publication.

Letter from Mr. Bull to Dr. Barton, read and referred to Mr. Ellicot [*sic*] to put in the printer's hands if he think it worthy of publication.

Encyclopædie, Livs. 65, 66 (cost 81 francs, or \$14.85) with Dr. Grassi's letter of August 15, "that they talk of (but without promising) two or three Livraisons more to close this work." Payment ordered.

Treasurer ordered to pay Mr. Dobson \$150 for set of French Encyclopedia, purchased from Jas. Gibson, Dec. 6, 1799.

Members permitted to use the Encyclopedia by giving a receipt to Mr. Peale for parts taken out.

1800. *Dec.* 5. (Patterson; Barton, Woodhouse, Peale, Allison, Vaughan.)

Report of Committee on subjects of premium laid over.  
No papers for Magellanic premium.

1800. Dec. 19. (Wistar; Duponceau, Clay, Ellicott, J. B. Smith, Latrobe, Patterson, Legaux, Peale, Drs. Barton, Shippen, Woodhouse, Coxe, Seybert.)

Committee on "Deed of conveyance from Hannah Rittenhouse, Eliz. Sergeant [*sic*] and Hannah Waters sole heirs & residuary devisees of the great Rittenhouse, to the [American Philosophical Society] upon certain Trusts & for certain uses therein expressed, which deed bears date the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 1797—also the draught of a new Deed cancelling the former . . . ." reported that, in his opinion,\* as the "uses" and "trusts" affected only the "grantors" and "grantees," they may be revoked by mutual consent. But the deed of March 10, 1797, having been recorded cannot be canceled.

"Therefore . . . as to such parts thereof as the grantors wish to have again, the old uses ought to be revoked by an Indenture to be executed between the parties, in which the Society should covenant to stand seized thereof to the uses of the said grantors & of their heirs as of their former estate respectively, in which Indenture it might be recited that the thing is done by mutual consent & for the greater advantage & convenience of all the parties, & any particular clauses or agreement that they may besides have agreed upon might with propriety be inserted."

Signed Peter S. Du Ponceau. Vaughan and Du Ponceau, "to concert a proper mode of carrying the above Report into effect."

Subjects for premiums reported:—(Agreed to.)

1. "For the most simple, convenient & effective method of ventilating a ship at sea, without manual labour," if superior to any now in use, \$100: limit of time, April 1, 1802.

2. "For the cheapest & most effectual method of rendering Common Oil fit to be burned in the Argand-lamp, either by purifying the oil, or by improvement in the lamp," \$35, April 1, 1802.

3. "For any simple & effectual method of rendering Turpentine, or any other cheap inflammable substance, a fit fuel for street or house Lamps or a proper material for Candles," \$40, April 1, 1802.

\*Duponceau was the Committee.

4. "For the best experimental Essay on the native red dyes [*sic*] of the U. S., accompanied with small specimens of the dyed stuffs," \$150, Jan. 1, 1804.

Donation: Mazère's *Scriptores Logarithmatici*, Vol. III. Thanks to donor.

Catalogue to be completed (by Dr. Collin) "by inserting such books as have been received since it was first presented."

Stock of Trans.:—Vaughan and Woodhouse "to enquire into the state & situation of the three first Vols."

Trans. American Philosophical Society.—Secretaries and Treasurer to distribute Vol. IV. "as they conveniently can, agreeable to former Resolutions of the Society."

Annual election ordered January 2, 1801.

1801. Jan. 2, between 2 and 5 P. M. (Allison; Collin, Peale, Barton, Patterson, J. B. Smith, Magaw, Seybert, Leslie, Coxe, Williams, Vaughan, Abercrombie.)

Leslie, Peale, Collin, Judges; Vaughan, Allison, Secretaries.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

*President*—Thomas Jefferson.

*Vice-Presidents*—Wistar, Patterson, Ellicott.

*Secretaries*—Coxe, Seybert, Clay, Allison.

*Councillors*—J. B. Smith, Currie, Wheeler, Duponceau.

*Curators*—Peale, Leslie, J. R. Smith.

*Treasurer*—Vaughan.

1801. Jan. 16. (Ellicott; Peale, Vaughan, J. B. Smith, Patterson, Williams, Dr. Priestley, Magaw, Barton, Shippen, Collin, Woodhouse, Currie, Seybert, Wistar, Allison, Coxe.)

"On an Anemoscope, Pneumatometer & Rain-gauge," by Dr. Allison; referred to Patterson and Clay.

"A very extraordinary appearance of Shooting Stars off